

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO MALI—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-49)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in Mali declared in Executive Order 13882 of July 26, 2019, is to continue in effect beyond July 26, 2021.

The situation in Mali, including repeated violations of ceasefire arrangements made pursuant to the 2015 Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali; the expansion of terrorist activities into southern and central Mali; the intensification of drug trafficking and trafficking in persons, human rights abuses, and hostage-taking; and the intensification of attacks against civilians, the Malian defense and security forces, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), and international security presences, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13882 with respect to the situation in Mali.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 20, 2021.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO LEBANON—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-50)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to

the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Lebanon declared in Executive Order 13441 of August 1, 2007, is to continue in effect beyond August 1, 2021.

Certain ongoing activities, such as Iran's continuing arms transfers to Hizballah—which include increasingly sophisticated weapons systems—serve to undermine Lebanese sovereignty, contribute to political and economic instability in the region, and continue to constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 20, 2021.

47TH ANNIVERSARY OF INVASION OF CYPRUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise for this Special Order to commemorate the 47th anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus by Turkey, and to further call attention and demand action on the continued Turkish settlement of Varosha.

On July 20, 1974, a very sad day, Turkey invaded the Republic of Cyprus and violently captured the northern part of the island and established a heavily armed occupation force that continues to control nearly 37 percent of Cyprus' territory.

As a result of this flagrant violation of international law, 160,000 Greek Cypriots, 70 percent of the population of the occupied area, were forcibly expelled from their homes. In addition, approximately 5,000 Cypriots were killed, including five Americans, Mr. Speaker, of Cypriot descent.

□ 1845

More than 1,400 Greek Cypriots remain missing since the Turkish invasion, and their fate is still unknown.

Greek and Turkish Cypriots were forcibly divided along ethnic lines and remain so to this day. It is utterly baffling why over the past 47 years the U.S., the E.U., the U.N. and the international community writ large have failed to take meaningful action against Turkey for the invasion and subsequent occupation of Cyprus.

Indeed, lack of action has emboldened Turkey to treat the occupied north of Cyprus as an unannexed province of Turkey where Erdogan seeks to, among other things, build a presidential palace, presumably as a

precursor to the caliphate he expects to lead.

Decades of failed reunification attempts have jaded even the most optimistic of us.

Today, after President Erdogan defied warnings from the U.S. and the international community, as well as U.N. Security Council resolutions and went ahead and changed the status of Varosha, there can no longer be any doubt that with Erdogan leading Turkey and Ersin Tatar leading the Turkish Cypriot community, there will be no Cyprus solutions, sadly.

The tragic story of Varosha is perhaps the true embodiment of the permanent harm Turkey's direct interference has had on the island. Once holding international renown as a premier tourist destination, it has fallen into a state of dilapidation—sadly, Mr. Speaker, and I did witness it myself—after its lawful inhabitants were forced to flee in the face of the Turkish invasion.

Varosha, particularly the resettlement of its lawful inhabitants, has long been a central issue in the negotiations for Cypriot reunification. However, Turkey continues to unilaterally threaten the noble dream of one people, one border, one Cyprus.

Unfortunately, it was not by coincidence that Erdogan chose this day—the anniversary of the fateful Turkish invasion of Cyprus—to take this illegal action. I emphasize “illegal,” Mr. Speaker.

Although the events of the Turkish invasion 47 years ago are not new, I feel it is important that the severity of the invasion and its lasting effects are not understated or forgotten. We must never forget.

It was then, the Turkish forces ethnically cleansed and then fenced off the beautiful area of Varosha, holding it hostage for decades as a bargaining chip in reunification negotiations. All despite the two Cypriot communities' intention to reach an agreement on the resettlement of its lawful inhabitants. The 1979 High Level Agreement made it clear that the resettlement of Varosha was a unified Cypriot priority, that both sides were open to such acts of goodwill, and that the United Nations should play a role in the resolution of the Cyprus problem.

However, the status quo radically changed in 2019 when the Turkish occupation authorities announced their intention, sadly, to open Varosha to Turkish settlement, directly contradicting the United Nation's role and legitimacy on the issue, specifically U.N. Security Council Resolutions 482, 550, 789, and 2483.

Back in October of 2019, I even wrote that the Turkish settlement of Varosha would be a step in the completely wrong direction of what the Cypriot people want—and I have spoken to the Cypriot people—which is the eventual reunification of Cyprus.

The Republic of Cyprus continues to maintain the return of Varosha as a

cornerstone of confidence building measures with the Turkish Cypriots, including joint ventures seeking to restore the dilapidated city.

Indeed, the present government of the Republic of Cyprus proposed a confidence building measure that would have turned Varosha over to U.N. control and allowed the Turkish-Cypriot port Famagusta to trade with the world under E.U. designation.

And Famagusta is a wonderful place. I had relatives that had to leave during the invasion in 1974, Mr. Speaker. They lost their homes, they lost their livelihoods, and they moved to Athens. But, again, a beautiful place, and it is a very sad situation. And it is action we need, not words, and that is why I am here tonight, Mr. Speaker, to educate the American public and the Members of Congress.

So the Erdogan government, Mr. Speaker, and the Turkish occupation authorities in Cyprus rejected this win-win proposal and decided to keep this one time jewel—and it is a jewel—of the eastern Mediterranean sadly, a ghost town.

Turkish Cypriots, in particular, want to be part of the E.U. and share in all the economic benefits that their compatriots, the Greek Cypriots, enjoy. We support them in their efforts and condemn Erdogan for using Turkish Cypriots as pawns. That is exactly what he is doing. He is using them as pawns to help bolster his dismal record on Turkey's economy.

The world knows that Erdogan is desperate and trying to distract from his failed leadership in Turkey. With his sinking poll numbers, Erdogan must shore up his nationalist base ahead of Turkey's 2023 election. That is what this is all about. That is why he has converted his rhetoric into action and moved to reopen parts of Varosha for Turkish recreation and tourism. It is outrageous, and it must be stopped.

We need to speak up now before it is too late, and fight for the dream and hope of an eventual Cypriot reunification. These are our allies. These are great allies, Mr. Speaker.

The United States, the U.N., the E.U. cannot simply continue to just simply offer its sentiments and vocal displeasure. They must match their displeasure with action, not limited to U.N. management of Varosha as outlined in U.N. Security Council Resolution 550, diplomatic isolation, or sanctions, not limited to just that.

The permanent Turkish settlement of Varosha without justice to the Cypriots who had their homes unlawfully taken from them should be the final red line for the international community that cannot be crossed. We, the international community, have an opportunity and an obligation to stand and fight for justice for our ally, the Cypriot people.

The Cypriot people have a right to their dream of a united Cyprus without direct interference from the Turks, and the displaced Cypriots are entitled to

return to their homes in beautiful Varosha.

The United States must take real action and let Erdogan know in very clear terms that the U.S. will no longer put up with the blatant exploitation of the Cypriot people. And that is what it has been all these years.

Last week, a bipartisan group of U.S. Senators led in part by my good friend, MARCO RUBIO, called for the Biden administration to pursue multilateral sanctions if Turkey changes the status of Varosha. Senator MENENDEZ has also been a great leader in this area, too.

Turkey crossed that Rubicon today. And like it did when we warned them not to go ahead with the Russian S400 purchases, they thumbed their nose at the United States Congress, the State Department, and the White House.

It is time that Turkey be held accountable for acting contrary to U.S. policy, U.S. interests, and U.S. law. And I ask this House to echo the call by the Senators asking the Biden administration to pursue multilateral sanctions in response to Turkey's flagrant violations of international law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

200 DAYS OF DELIVERING FOR THE PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, tomorrow, marks 200 days of this Congress and 200 days of House Democrats delivering for the people.

Together, with President Biden we have created millions of jobs since he took office at a faster pace than any President in U.S. history. Economic growth projections are up. Wages are up. And unemployment is down.

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan, we have brought needed relief to families across the country.

More than 160 million Americans are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19. And nearly 70 percent of adults in the United States have received at least one shot.

We invested in helping schools reopen safely and to make up for lost learning time. We sent money to States and to local communities to help keep childcare providers on the job and to lower costs for working families. And we got more than 163 million economic impact payments into the hands of hardworking Americans in 2021.

And last week, child tax credit monthly payments began hitting the bank accounts of roughly 39 million households, covering almost 90 percent of children nationwide. That is historic tax relief for nearly every working family across the United States.

And behind each of those numbers is a family member, a neighbor, a colleague faced with untenable circumstances, getting the support that they need.

Last week I had a chance to sit down, Mr. Speaker, with families in my district. I represent northern Colorado. It is a wonderful place. Many of these families shared with me exactly what these child tax credit payments will mean for them and for their families.

Annie in Boulder, a woman that I met last Wednesday, is 8 months pregnant, and her child tax credit payment is helping her pay for healthcare while she is on maternity leave until she is able to return to work full time.

Johanna from Fort Collins, already received her credit on July 15, and she will use that credit to pay for a summer camp for her son.

Others shared how these payments will help pay for their childcare, for food, or rent payments. Child tax credit payments for many Colorado families, for many California families, for many Texas families, for many Montana families, for many American families is a lifeline because the payments mean money in the pockets of hard-working parents that will ultimately help strengthen our economy and build better lives for their families.

The bottom line is that with the child tax credit and with the American Rescue Plan, help is here for so many.

I recently had an opportunity to take a road trip across my district to see what the American Rescue Plan has meant for families in northern Colorado from Boulder County to Larimer County up to the Wyoming border from Vail to Grand Lake to Bailey, Evergreen, and many places in between, visiting with families and small business owners, childcare workers, and communities.

And we heard story after story about how these funds are helping our communities, providing support to local food banks who have seen skyrocketing demands, providing a needed lifeline to small business owners and renters, and supporting, as I said, our cities and counties amidst the unprecedented moment that we are all experiencing.

□ 1900

We have always said that at this time of unprecedented challenge, we could not leave our families or our communities to weather this moment alone. Well, we have not. President Biden has not. House Democrats have not. Senate Democrats have not. And we will not.

Mr. Speaker, 200 days—200 days of shots in arms, money in pockets, children in schools, people in jobs. And our work is just getting started, because